CLASSIFIED

PROFILE #: 12031941
REAL NAME: James Buchanan Barnes
AKA: Captain America

After the murder of Steve Rogers, the man who was Captain America, Cap's former partner during World War II, James "Bucky" Barnes, agreed to don the mantle. And even as he struggles with the sins he committed as the Winter Soldier, the Soviet mercenary he was brainwashed into becoming during the Cold War, the new Captain America finds his pasts as both Bucky and the Winter Soldier colliding with his present.

In 1942, Cap and Bucky were part of a secret operation to rescue top Chinese scientist Professor Zhang Chin, a 12-year-old super-genius. But in 1968, the Winter Soldier was called on to eliminate the same boy, now a man, and only his vague memories of the past -- and a mysterious man in the shadows, a man with no face -- stopped him before he pulled the trigger.

Now, Cap must find out how those memories relate to Batroc the Leaper, a French mercenary, his heist of a top secret and incredibly valuable item from the U.N., and the Man With No Face.

TIME'S ARROW - PART 3 OF 3

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CAPTAIN AMERICA (ISSN #0274-5267) **No. 45, February, 2009.** Published Monthly by MARVEL PUBLISHING, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 417 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10016. **PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.**

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Beijing—1968
THEY CALLED HIM THE MAN WITH NO FACE.
ONE OF PROFESSOR CHIN'S FAILED EXPERIMENTS FROM THE '50s.
<DON'T KILL HIM, AGENT...I WANT THAT ONE ALIVE.>
<I HAVE QUESTIONS FOR HIM...>
CHINA'S ATTEMPT AT THEIR OWN SUPER-SOLDIER, THAT HAD GONE DISASTROUSLY WRONG.
<AS YOU WISH, SIR...>
YAAA--

NOW HE WAS HARDLY A MAN, FADING IN AND OUT OF SHADOWS...
LOSING SUBSTANCE... UNABLE TO EAT OR SLEEP...
BUT HE WAS AN EFFECTIVE AGENT FOR HIS GOVERNMENT, EVEN IF THEY'D ENDED UP WITH A SPY, NOT A SOLDIER.
SO...THE PROFESSOR WANTS YOU ALIVE...
I WONDER, DOES THAT MAKE YOU LUCKY...OR UNLUCKY?
I LEARNED ALL THIS LATER, OF COURSE...AT MY DEBRIEFING BACK IN MOSCOW.
KSSSH
AHH--
<PROFESSOR!>
BLAM BLAMM
I DIDN'T KNOW IT WHEN HE WAS TRYING TO KILL ME.

New York City--
Now
JUST LIKE I DIDN'T KNOW HE WAS STILL ACTIVE... STILL ALIVE...
BUT LIKE I SAID... HE WASN'T REALLY HUMAN ANYMORE.
I WOULD HATE TO THINK I DON'T MAKE A LASTING IMPRESSION...
BECAUSE I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT YOU DID.
I DON'T HAVE TIME TO FIGURE OUT WHAT'S GOING ON HERE.
HOW HE KNOWS WHO I AM.
WHAT THE HELL HE'S DOING WORKING WITH BATROC.

ALL I KNOW IS, WHATEVER'S IN THE BACK OF THAT TRANSPORT...
...AS MUCH AS I DIDN'T WANT BATROC GETTING HIS HANDS ON IT...
I THINK NOT.
...IF THE MAN WITH NO FACE IS AFTER IT, TOO...

...THIS ENTIRE MISSION JUST GOT A WHOLE LOT WORSE.
KA-WHOOO

--NOT SAYING THAT, BUT IT DOES THE JOB, Y'KNOW?
WOMEN SEE THE HAIR, AND THE CAR... AND WELL...
...LET'S JUST SAY THEY LIKE WHAT THEY SEE.
THEY CAN'T TELL THOSE ARE PLUGS?
NO ONE CAN. THAT'S THE BEAUTY OF IT...I'M TELLING YOU...
ARCHIVAL STORAGE

YOU ARE NOT SO SLIPPERY THIS TIME...ARE YOU, AMERICAN?
WHUUUF--
THINK, BUCKY--THINK!
YAAALUGGH!
HOW DID YOU STOP THIS CREEP BEFORE?
MORE THAN THAT COSTUME HAS CHANGED...
...YOU'VE LOST YOUR EDGE.

WHAT HURTS HIM?
WHERE IS THAT KILLER INSTINCT?
WHAT EVEN TOUCHES HIM?
IT HAS TO BE IN THERE SOMEWHERE...
...LET ME JUST HAVE A LOOK...
OH, THAT'S RIGHT...WHEN HE TOUCHES ME--
ELECTRICAL CHARGE FROM MY ARTIFICIAL ARM.
FRRRAZZZTT
THANKS, NICK FURY, WHEREVER YOU ARE.
GYYAAAHHH!

Beijing—1,968
YEAH, I REMEMBER...
HE'S NOT UNTOUCHABLE, JUST HARD TO TOUCH...
AAAUUGGGG—
SKKZZAAATTZZ
BLAM BLAM
--UHHT!

...AND NOT EASY TO KEEP DOWN.
<AGENT?>
<STAY BACK, LEADER! IT'S NOT SAFE!>
THIS WAS ONE OF THE FEW MISSIONS THAT WENT BELLY-UP ON ME.
WHERE ESCAPE SUDDENLY TOOK PRIORITY OVER ALL OTHER OBJECTIVES.
A SOVIET AGENT COULDN'T BE FOUND HUNTING SCIENTISTS IN CHINA.
<NO, AGENT-- STOP HIM!>
<DON'T LET HIM GO THAT WAY!>
IT WAS ESCAPE AT ALL COSTS...
BLAM BLAM BLAM
...BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY.
<NOT THAT WAY!>
<NOT THAT WAY!>

HUMAN INTELLIGENCE IS MORE RELIABLE THAN COLD, HARD FACTS.
...AT WITH HUMAN ESPIONAGE...
OF COURSE, THE SCUM HAVE TO DEAL WITH YOUR INFORMATION...
...KIND OF BORING OLD FAIRLY QUICKLY. TO A LIKE ME.
...RARELY FOUND COMPUTER FILE THAT'S MADE ME LIKE THROWING UP...
OH, NO...DAMN IT...

OH, COME ON.
HE NEEDS A HELICOPTER, TOO?
KA-CHOOM
KA-CHOOM
THAT'S COMPLETE OVERKILL.
KA-CHOOM
SPANNG
UHNN!
EXCEPT, IT'S NOT JUST HERE FOR AIR-SUPPORT, IS IT, BUCK?
THIS WAY...AND LAY IT DOWN CAREFULLY...

IT'S HERE FOR TRANSPORT-- FOR THE GETAWAY.

AH!
SKRAANG

DO NOT LET THE PACKAGE BE HARMED..
I SHALL RETURN MOMENTARILY...

OKAY, THAT WAS NOT THE INTENDED EFFECT...
BUT AT LEAST THE CHOPPER IS HOLDING OFF NOW.

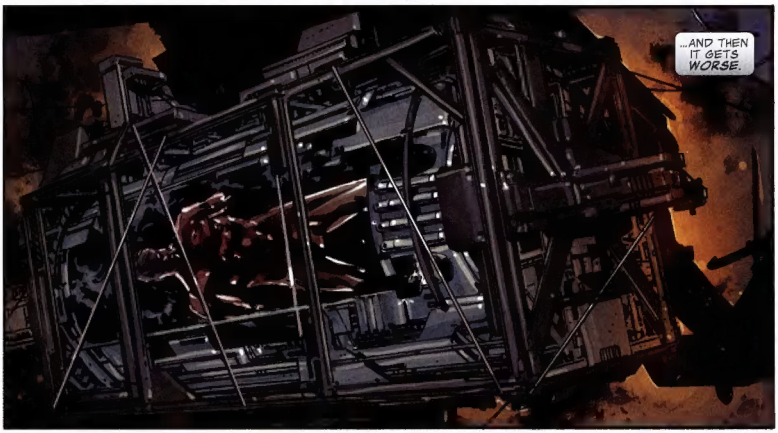
DOESN'T WANT TO INJURE THE GUY PAYING THE BILL...
KRAKK
I THOUGHT THAT YOU HAD HIM.
DO YOU WANT TO LOSE YOUR PRIZE?
I DO HAVE HIM, FOOL...
...I AM SIMPLY TAKING MY TIME WITH IT.
WE HAVE OLD SCORES TO SETTLE, THIS ONE AND I...

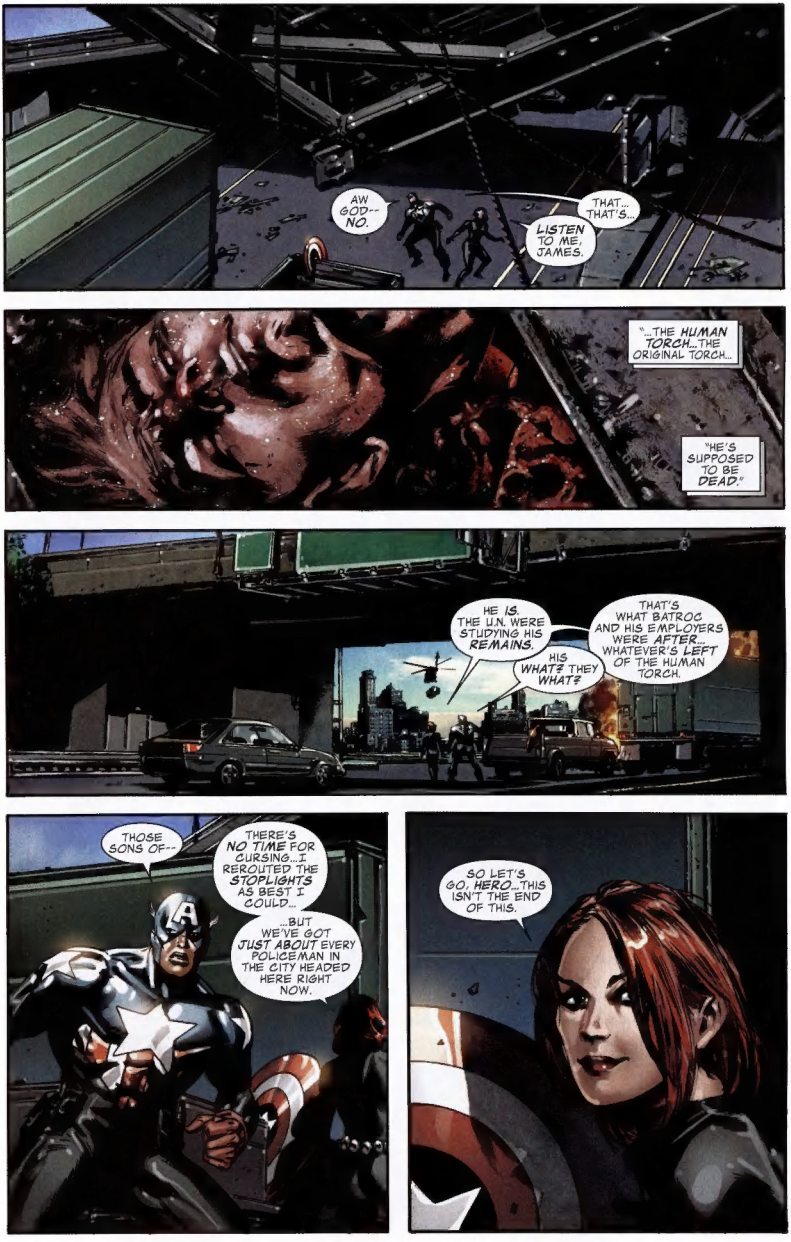
GOTTA TIME THIS JUST RIGHT...
KA-WHAMM
AHH!
ONE DOWN.
NOW WHERE THE HELL IS--
GAAHHH!

GO, BATROC... GET TO THE PACKAGE.
I TOLD YOU I HAVE THIS.
...WHUUH... UH...
NO.. GOTTA STOP BATROC...
TRYING TO... TRYING...MUSCLES DON'T WORK...
EXCEPT... HEART TRYING TO POUND...
...RIGHT THROUGH MY CHEST...
I WISH THE PROFESSOR COULD SEE YOU LIKE THIS, SOLDIER...
HELIPORT
BUT OF COURSE, HE WILL... SOON.
ONCE WE GET YOU BACK TO--

YAAIIEEEE!
BLIZZITT
BLIZZITT
WHERE--?
...CAREFUL...
...COULD BE...ANY SHADOW...
MY GOD, LOOK AT YOU...
I'LL BE... FINE...
...JUST STOP THEM!
BUT THE WIND IS ALREADY WHIPPING AROUND US.

IT'S TOO LATE, ALREADY.
E 23 St
3/4 mi
Midtown Tun
E 34 St
THIS IS BAD...


...AND THEN IT GETS WORSE.


AW GOD-- NO.
THAT... THAT'S...
LISTEN TO ME, JAMES.
"...THE HUMAN TORCH...THE ORIGINAL TORCH...
"HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD."
HE IS. THE U.N. WERE STUDYING HIS REMAINS.
HIS WHAT? THEY WHAT?
THAT'S WHAT BATROC AND HIS EMPLOYERS WERE AFTER. WHATEVER'S LEFT OF THE HUMAN TORCH.
THOSE SONS OF--
THERE'S NO TIME FOR CURSING...I REROUTED THE STOPLIGHTS AS BEST I COULD...
...BUT WE'VE GOT JUST ABOUT EVERY POLICEMAN IN THE CITY HEADED HERE RIGHT NOW.
SO LET'S GO, HERO...THIS ISN'T THE END OF THIS.

AND BLACK WIDOW'S RIGHT. BECAUSE AN HOUR LATER, LOOKING THROUGH THE INTEL SHE CAME UP WITH...
I'M REALIZING MY MISSION HAS JUST BEGUN.
DAMN IT.

SOMEONE SHOULD HAVE KNOWN ABOUT THIS...
SOMEONE SHOULD'VE STOPPED IT.
AGREED, ON BOTH POINTS.

BUT OUR WORLD HAS BEEN KIND OF BUSY THE PAST FEW YEARS WITH CIVIL WARS AND ALIEN INVASIONS.
SOME THINGS WERE BOUND TO FALL THROUGH THE CRACKS.

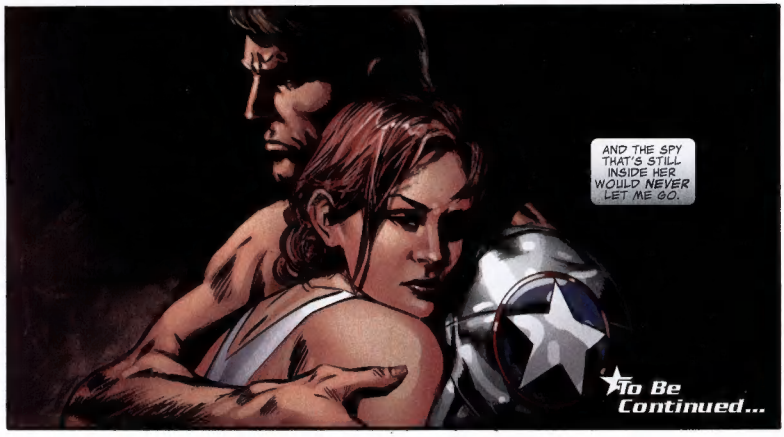
THE MAN WAS A WAR HERO. HE SHOULD'VE BEEN BURIED WITH FULL HONORS.
NOT STUDIED LIKE SOME... SOME THING.

AGREED, AGAIN...BUT THE URGENT QUESTION ISN'T WHY OUR PEOPLE WOULD TREAT HIS REMAINS THIS WAY...
...BUT WHY WOULD THIS PROFESSOR CHIN BE INTERESTED IN THEM?

AND BECAUSE SHE'LL KNOW THEN, WHY I HAVE TO GO AFTER THEM.
THEY'RE GOING TO TAKE WHAT'S LEFT OF THE TORCH...
...AND MAKE SOME KIND OF WEAPON OUT OF HIM.

AND I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN.
HE WAS A FRIEND OF MINE.

BUT IF I'D TOLD HER THE REST OF IT...SHE'D KNOW IT WAS MUCH WORSE THAN THAT.
AND I DON'T HAVE A LOT OF THOSE LEFT...
I KNOW...


AND THE SPY THAT'S STILL INSIDE HER WOULD NEVER LET ME GO.
To Be Continued...